

THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN  
ANN ARBOR 48109

ROBBEN W. FLEMING  
PRESIDENT

May 23, 1978

Admiral Stansfield Turner  
Director  
Central Intelligence Agency  
Washington, D.C. 20505

Dear Admiral Turner:


I have your invitation to join you and several other university presidents for a discussion of CIA-university relations. I would be glad to do this because I think there are mutual problems which need to be discussed, but I do have one concern.

If you are free to announce publicly that you have asked some university presidents to meet and discuss CIA-university problems with you, I would be glad to accept. I have no objection to being named as one who is attending. What I don't want is to go to such a meeting, then find that we are being mutually accused of "secret" conversations, and then be unable to make any comment on them.

Within a university community I have never had difficulty engaging in what some people may think of as controversial activities so long as I make no secret about what I am doing. By this, I do not mean that when I go to a meeting I feel obligated to then render a full report of what was said, but I do want to be able to say that I went to such a meeting, that there was a discussion of many CIA-university problems, and that we exchanged views with respect to the future.

I understand that this may not be possible from your point of view. In that event, I must respectfully decline.

Sincerely,

  
R. W. Fleming

ph